(b) The Government has initiated a series of steps to make exports commercially viable through upgrading industrial capibility, ensuring supply of raw materials at competitive prices, strengthening infrastructural areas and simplifying the procedures.

Steps to arrest inflation

314. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what positive steps are being taken by Government to arrest the prevailing inflation in the country; and

(b) what was the value of the present rupee as on 31st December, 1989 with respect to the value at the end of the years 1950, 1960, 1970 and 1980?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) The Government has adopted a package of measures to keep prices under check. These include, maintaining supplies of essential commodities through public distribution system, augmenting domestic supplies through imports as feasible, exercising strict fiscal and monetary discipline and action against hoarders and black-marketeers.

(b) The requisite information on value of rupee, measured as the reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index (1960-100), is given below:

Period	Value of Rupee
(end December)	(in Paise)
1950	121·95
1960	98·04
1970	53·76
1980	24·51
1989	11·59

Cost differences between Pepsi Plant and that of Jagatjit Industries

315. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:
SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the potato chips and snack food plant of Pepsi is costing Rs. 5.52 crores CIF and total project cost Rs. 1842 crore whereas the plant of Jagatjit Industries, NOIDA plant is costing Rs. 1.71 crore CIF and total project cost Rs. 4.04 crores;

(b) what are the capacities of these two plants; and

(c) what is the reason for such a large difference.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) According to the information furnished by M/s.Pepsi Foods Private Limited the cost of potato chips and snack food plant is Rs. 5.52 crores c.i.f. and total project cost is Rs. 18.42 crores . In the case of Jagatjit Industries, NOIDA, plant,the cost of the plant has been indicated as 1.78 crores c.i.f. and the total project cost at Rs. 4.93 crores.

(b) and (c) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Issue of blanket permits by RBI

316. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the MINISTER of FINANCE be pleased to state: